

" By the Minnesota route, soon to consist of a railway to the Red River, and steamers by Lake Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan to the Rocky Mountains, a great national highway exists, so advantageous in all respects as to suggest an apprehension among English writers that the destiny of the Selkirk and Saskatchewan district is indissoluble from the Mississippi States "

MR. NUGENT'S REPORT ON BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In 1860, a special agent of the United States, named John Nugent, transmitted a report on Vancouver Island and British Columbia. It was chiefly a report upon the treatment received by United States' citizens at the hands of the local authorities, and is principally remarkable for his expression of the general worthlessness of the region, and of his great indignation because Governor Douglas corresponded with him through a private secretary, and not by despatch signed with his own hand.

MR. WARD'S REPORT.

Passing on, we come to the reports of 1864. That of the Committee on Commerce (House of Representatives) reiterates the objections raised in 1860 to the Treaty, and stated that " notwithstanding the irritation produced by the unexpected obstacles interposed by Canadian legislation to the former course of trade and to the results properly expected to flow from the Treaty, no memorial in favor of its unconditional abrogation has been presented to this committee, although its ultimate termination, if the causes of dissatisfaction cannot be removed, is generally preferred to the continuance of a system embarrassed as at present."

" The tendency of a just reciprocal system of trade between these two countries is, to some extent, illustrated by the broad fact that the year before the treaty came into operation the value of direct importations to Canada *via* the St. Lawrence was \$21,171,756, and of exports \$12,501,372, making the whole trade by that route \$33,673,128. In the following year, when transit through the United States was facilitated by the treaty, the imports by the same river were \$11,494,028, and the exports \$8,195,500, in all \$19,689,528. Thus there was a decrease of the business by the St. Lawrence amounting to \$15,203,000, an amount which was immediately transferred to the carrying trade of the United States."

The Committee recommended that " the President be authorized to give notice to the Government of Great Britain that it is the intention of the Government of the United States to terminate the treaty at the end of twelve months from the expiration of the ten years, unless a new construction shall before that time be concluded between the two Governments, by which the provisions shall be abrogated or so modified as to be mutually satisfactory."

MR. CHASE'S REPORT.

In January, 1864, Mr. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, presented to the Treasury House of Representatives a series of tabular statements in answer to request for statistical reformation on the practical operation of the treaty. The contents are—